



U.S. Department of Justice

*United States Attorney
Southern District of Georgia*

*Post Office Box 8970
Savannah, GA 31412
(912) 652-4422*

*100 Bull Street
Savannah, GA 31401
FAX (912) 652-4388*

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
May 15, 2006**

**CONTACT: Edmund A. Booth, Jr.
First Assistant U.S. Attorney
(706) 724-0517**

SAVANNAH MAN PLEADS GUILTY TO FIREARMS THEFT

Lisa Godbey Wood, United States Attorney for the Southern District of Georgia, announced today that **Charles Johnson, III, also known as "Chuckie," age 19, of Savannah, Georgia,** entered a guilty plea on May 11, 2006 in U.S. District Court in Augusta, Georgia to a charge of stealing 32 firearms from a gun store in Eastman, Georgia which holds a federal firearms license. The theft took place during the early morning hours of December 17, 2005 when Johnson and other unidentified individuals broke into the gun store. Johnson was arrested after his fingerprint was found inside the store. Although several of the stolen firearms have been recovered in Savannah, the majority of the firearms have not been recovered.

Johnson will be sentenced upon the completion of a pre-sentence investigation report. A sentencing date has not been set. Johnson faces a term of imprisonment of up to 10 years. The case was investigated by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, the Eastman Police Department, and the Georgia Bureau of Investigation. The government is represented by Assistant U.S. Attorney Karl Knoche.

28-06